BIRDS ARE SNAPPED BACK TO REALITY

CHARGERS DEFEAT EAGLES IN FIRST HOME GAME. PAGE 31

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Monday, September 16, 2013 www.metro.us | t: MetroPhilly | f: MetroPhilly

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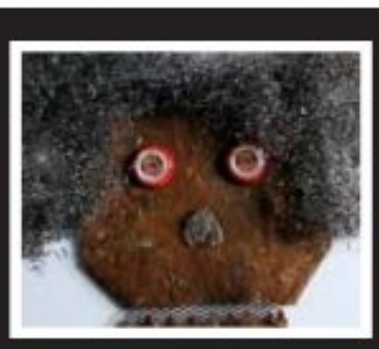

HOME IS WHERE THE ART IS

When words collide. Some homeless men with the DePaul House are using art to express themselves. **'They have hopes and dreams.'** The group's director said the creations show the men how they fit in. PAGE 02

Men of the DePaul House created these pieces of artwork that are now on display. / PHOTOS PROVIDED

Syria claims 'victory' in avoiding US air strikes

PAGE 08

Celebs fight dropout rate on 'Dream School'

PAGE 24

How to get a 'Dancing with the Stars' body

PAGE 22

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1

NEWS

Local tweet

"It's a fine day to (encourage other people who are stupid enough to) run a half marathon. Good job,..."

Alison Moser, @alison_moser, offered encouragement from the sidelines to the participants in the Rock 'n' Roll Half Marathon yesterday.

Top 3

What's trending at Metro.us

1 'VIDEO: Enjoy this 'Blurred Lines' and 'Sanford and Son' mash-up'

2 'Irate caller threatens customer service agent with machine gun (NSFW audio)'

3 'Black Flag vs. FLAG, a history-making court case?'

Claim

Collapse site
FILE PHOTO

Another family files wrongful death suit

The family of Roseline Conteh filed a wrongful-death lawsuit against the owner of the building that collapsed on June 5, the Salvation Army and 17 others.

Conteh, 52, died in the collapse when an under-demolition building collapsed on top of the Salvation Army Thrift store in Center City. METRO

Melee

Stabbing leads to one arrest

One woman, 29, is in critical condition and a second woman, 22, is in custody after a fist fight in Kensington Friday night led to a stabbing. Investigators said the victim was stabbed eight times and hospitalized in critical condition. The alleged offender was soon stopped nearby and arrested without incident. METRO

Art exhibition bridges two worlds

Art therapy. An exhibit featuring works by homeless men helps find common ground.

Organizers install art for "I Contain Multitudes." / CHARLES MOSTOLLER, METRO

To many, the realm of artistic expression and the realities of those experiencing homelessness seem miles away — and unlikely to intersect.

But an exhibition at The Philadelphia Foundation's Community Art Gallery featuring works by residents of The DePaul House aims to bridge those disparate worlds, reminding participants and viewers of the common ground they share.

"When people say 'homeless people' or 'the homeless,' they become invisible and lose their personality or humanity," said DePaul House Program Director Sandra Guillory. "Art is, for us, a way to show the public who the homeless are — they're working poor, they're fathers, they're brothers and they have hopes and dreams similar to many other people."

The exhibit combines self portraits with depictions of dreams that act as blueprints for the future. "We have a lot of guys working two part-time jobs and traveling two hours each day who are for the most part exhausted when they come home with us," Guillory said. "Creating art itself is an opportunity for them to express themselves and be creative and think about how they fit into the community. It also helps them refocus on their goals, because sometimes working that much, people forget why they're doing it," she said, surveying the gallery's depictions of participants' children and homes they hope to purchase. "It reminds them, 'This is why I'm doing this. This is why I'm making really hard changes in my life.'"

"These can be uncomfortable topics for people to bring up or think about," said Betsy Anderson of the Philadelphia Foundation. "So this is a point of entry for people to begin to have significant conversations around these things to say, 'Oh my goodness, I didn't realize some of the issues and concerns that are affecting a particular population.'"

ALEX WIGGLESWORTH
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If you go

'I Contain Multitudes'

Sept. 18 through Jan. 24 at The Community Art Gallery of the Philadelphia Foundation, 1234 Market Street, Suite 1800 Free and open to the public Mondays through Fridays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Quoted

"When people say 'homeless people' or 'the homeless,' they become invisible and lose their personality or humanity. Art is, for us, a way to show the public who the homeless are."

Guillory

Green light. Abington officials vote to install red-light cameras

Abington is on track to become the second municipality in Pennsylvania to install red-light cameras.

The township commissioners voted in favor of adding the devices at three heavily trafficked intersections, reports say.

The cameras were approved with a 14-1 vote, but PennDOT must approve any plans before installation can begin.

Until last year, Philadelphia was the only municipality in the commonwealth that was allowed to carry the cameras. After a change to state law, 13 municipalities are considering installation. METRO

Red light cameras
WIKIPEDIA COMMONS

Argument gone wrong. Man shot inside massage parlor

Police are investigating a shooting Saturday night inside a Chinatown massage parlor.

Officers shortly before midnight received a report of gunshots inside the Saigon Therapy massage parlor, located on the second floor of 117 N. 10th Street. There, they said they found a 53-year-old man lying on the floor.

He had been shot in the face.

Investigators said the victim was shot by an unknown man following an argument.

He was rushed to Jefferson University Hospital in critical condition. METRO

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Stephen Girard Elementary gets a makeover from the community

Touch-up. Local community groups repainted the school in one day.

Thomas Koger placed his hands against the freshly painted giraffe included in the mural that decorates the walls of the entrance to Stephen Girard Elementary School.

Koger, principal of the South Philly K-4, shook his head.

"Beautiful," he said, "Isn't it?"

Marketing company Digitas Health chose Girard for its yearly community service day. Teamed with members of Razorfish Healthware and Publicis Health Media, about 300 volunteers painted murals in the auditorium and on the first, second and third floors of the school building on Aug. 16.

Stephen Girard Elementary School Principal Thomas Koger shows off some of the new art. / RIKARD LARMA, METRO

Quoted

"They were fantastic. They did this in a day. About 300 people showed up. They had it all mapped out so [that] when they came in, they told them their stations where they were working and pulled it together." Koger

Koger said it helped make the students' first day on Sept. 9 special.

"The children were happy, the teachers were happy," he said. "It kind of boosted the morale of the staff."

In just a few hours, the group painted all three floors, several murals and asphalt art in the recess yard. Kids now have new hopscotch lanes as well as a giant, colorful United States map.

"I ask the kids to walk to Pennsylvania," he said.

The Passyunk Neighbors Association and other neighborhood groups also contributed with some work in the schools' small community garden. Area residents cleared shrubbery, planted flowers and painted the surrounding iron gates to spruce up the atmosphere.

Koger said without the help, the new paint job would have cost the school district "a lot of money."

Digitoss picks a different school every year. After making some calls to a fellow principal, Koger got Girard's name on the short list of possible locations.

When the group toured the school for the evaluation process, Koger joked, "You don't have to talk to any one else, just stay right here," he said. "Don't talk to anybody else."

When the group arrived, it brought recess material, gym material and toys.

"They brought all the paint and then left the paint for touch up," Koger said.

With the ongoing union negotiations and school funding crisis, Koger said it's nice to have something positive to appreciate.

"It's a very good feeling," he said, "when people come and say, 'We're willing to help.'"

TOMMY ROWAN
tommy.rowan@metro.us

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Levittown man beaten to death with bat: Police

Searching. Police are looking for four suspects they say were involved in the crime.

Britton / FACEBOOK

Philadelphia police have identified the man beaten to death early Saturday morning in Wissinoming as Joseph Britton, 30, of Levittown.

Investigators said officers responded shortly before 1:20 a.m. to the 5900 block of Charles Street for a report of a person screaming that he was being assaulted by a stick or bat.

There, they found Britton bleeding from the head and slumped over in the driver's seat of a blue Hyundai Tiburon. Britton, of the 7000 block of Curtis Avenue in Levittown, was pronounced dead around 1:30 a.m.

Police are seeking four suspects in connection with the brutal murder, described as two black males, one white male and one Hispanic male traveling in a black car, possibly a black Ford Crown Victoria with tinted windows.

Anyone with information on the suspects or crime is asked to call 911, to contact the Homicide Unit at 215-686-3333 or to submit an anonymous tip at 215-686-TIPS.

ALEX WIGGLESWORTH
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Come on and take a free SEPTA ride

Eagles fans packed the Broad Street Line's trains yesterday as SEPTA offered free rides down to the Linc. The ride back probably wasn't too fun — the Eagles lost to the San Diego Chargers. / RIKARD LARMA, METRO

Global Philly

International expo kicks off

Dubbed GlobalPhilly 2013, the city is rolling out more than 100 multi-cultural public and private/invitation-only events as the city markets itself as an international destination.

The exhibition, which started yesterday and runs through Nov. 1, intends to showcase the city's ability to entertain audiences from across the globe.

Some events scheduled for the coming weeks include: a dinner honoring chef Jose Garces, immigrant-heritage walking tours, chef-inspired tastings of foreign fare, dance, music and crafts.

On Tuesday, there will be a Multicultural Showcase at Love Park.

Also at Love Park, a zumba fitness class called "International Rhythms" will be featured.

Peace Walk Day will be held this Saturday, also at Love Park. METRO

Determined

Victim of shooting drives self to hospital

A man, 38, drove himself to Mercy Medical Center early Saturday after being shot three times near 62nd and Locust streets in West Philadelphia, according to police. METRO

Five city schools dropped from 'dangerous' list

Not there yet.
Work still remains, Superintendent William Hite said of the recent figures.

The School District of Philadelphia reported recently that the number of its schools listed on the state's "persistently dangerous" list has dropped for the third year in a row.

Lincoln High School in Northeast Philadelphia and Sayre High School in West Philadelphia remain on the list. Lincoln has been on the list since 2006, and Sayre was added last year.

Anna Shaw Middle School, which closed in June, was also included on the list.

Schools removed from the list include: Beeber Middle School, Frankford High School, Kensington Business High School and Douglas High School.

Strawberry Mansion High School, which has since transitioned into a Promise Academy, is also off the list.

"Our principals and school-based staff have worked extremely hard to improve school culture, safety and climate," Superintendent William Hite said in a statement.

"We know that much work remains, which is why we are increasing the use of restorative practices and Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support. Safety remains a high priority, and we will continue working to ensure positive and safe environments for learning," Hite added.

The number of violent incidents reported declined by 32 percent — from 4,000 to about 2,800 — across the district.

The state definition of violent incidents includes assaults, abductions and attempts, and offenses involving drugs and alcohol fires, morals offenses, robberies, and weapons. METRO

By the numbers

-66.6%
The percentage of abductions and attempts was down from 2012 to 2013.

-42%
Assault rates were also down.

-16.2%
The percentage of drugs and alcohol was down.

-17.2%
The weapons rate also went down.

Collision

Off-duty officer injured in crash

Two men were hospitalized — one of them an off-duty police officer — after a two-vehicle crash Saturday night in Upper Holmesburg.

Officers responded around 11:40 p.m. to State Road and Ashburner Street, where they found two cars had collided at the intersection. Traffic lights were flashing yellow in the north and southbound lanes and red in the east and westbound lanes, according to police.

The driver of the first car, an off-duty police officer, was taken to Aria Health-Torresdale for observation. The driver of the second car was hospitalized in critical condition. METRO

Rockin' and rollin'

Jessica Hirschlein, Pamela Wille and Autumn Von Der Stuck stop to get some love in Philly at Love Park after the three New York women ran the annual Rock 'N' Roll Half Marathon yesterday. / RIKARD LARMA, METRO

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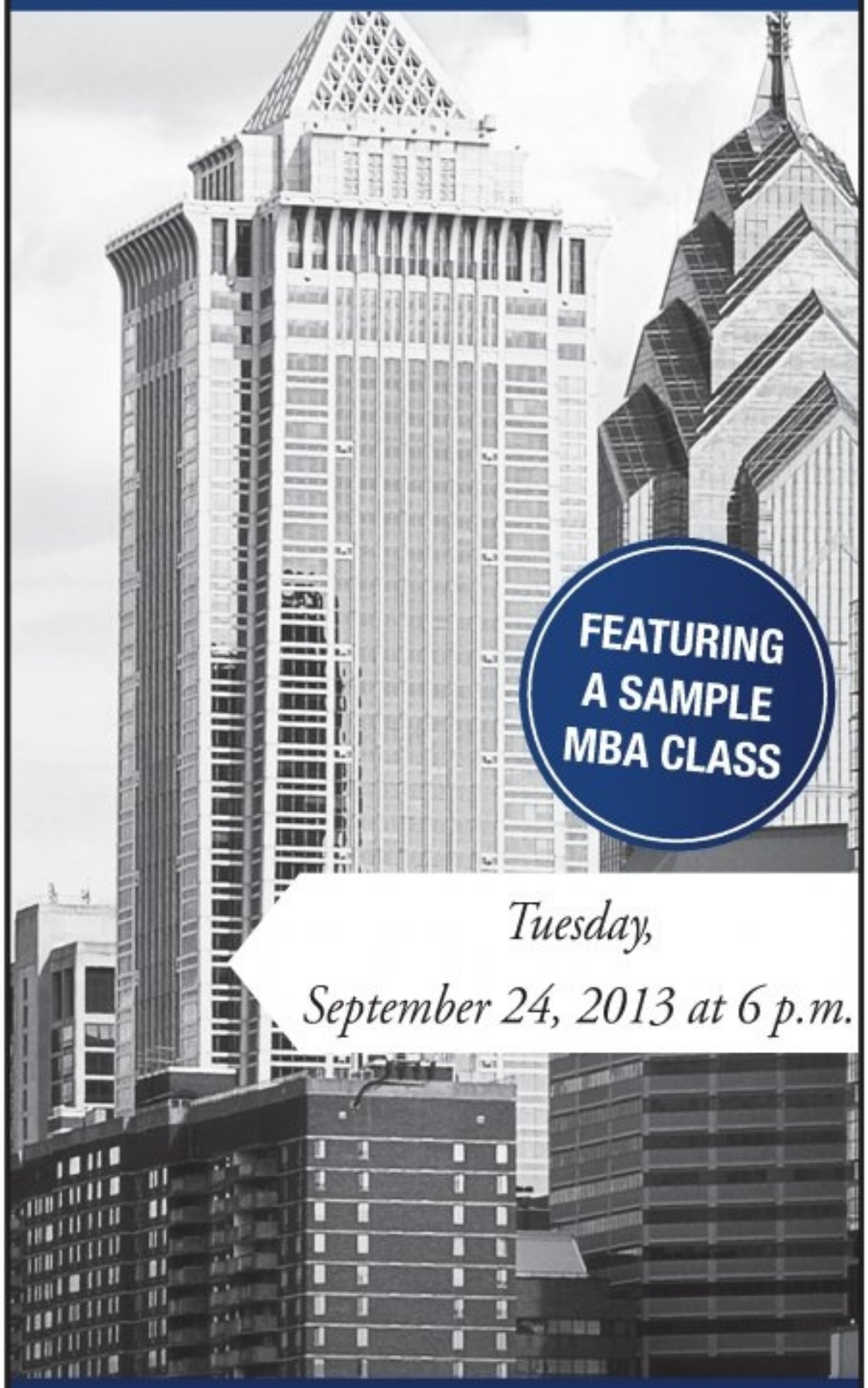

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Secretary of State John Kerry and Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov shake hands at the end of a press conference in Geneva. / GETTY IMAGES

Assad government hails 'victory' in arms deal, troops attack

Pact. The Syrian government has told the UN it will adhere to the chemical weapons treaty.

Syria's government hailed as a "victory" a Russian-brokered deal that has averted U.S. strikes, while President Barack Obama defended a chemical weapons pact that the rebels fear has bolstered their enemy in the civil war.

President Bashar al-Assad's jets and artillery hit rebel suburbs of the capital again yesterday in an offensive that residents said began last week when Obama delayed air strikes in the face of opposition from Moscow and his own electorate.

Speaking of the U.S.-Russian deal, Syrian minister Ali Haidar told Moscow's RIA news agency: "These agreements ... are a victory for Syria, achieved thanks to our Russian friends."

Though not close to Assad, Ali was the first Syrian official to react to Saturday's accord in Geneva by U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry and Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov. Bridging an angry East-West rift over Syria, they agreed to back a nine-month U.N. program to destroy Assad's chemical arsenal.

The deal has put off the threat of air strikes Obama made after poison gas killed hundreds of Syrians on Aug. 21, although he has stressed that force remains an option if Assad reneges. U.S. forces remain in position.

Russia still opposes military action but now backs possible U.N. sanctions for non-compliance. REUTERS

Negotiations

Deal could offer lesson for Iran talks

President Barack Obama disclosed in a television interview that he had exchanged letters with new Iranian President Hassan Rouhani and said diplomacy on Syria, backed up by a military threat, is a potential model for negotiations on Tehran's nuclear ambitions.

In an interview on "This Week with George Stephanopoulos," Obama did not reveal details of the letter exchange, but made clear that U.S. concerns about Iran's nuclear ambitions are a "far larger issue for us" than Syria's chemical weapons.

Skepticism

GOP questions whether Syria deal has enough teeth

Leading U.S. Republican lawmakers voiced skepticism yesterday about whether a deal to remove Syria's chemical weapons could work without a credible threat of force pressuring the Syrian government to comply.

The agreement, reached on Saturday after talks between the United States and Russia, calls on Syrian President Bashar al-Assad to account for his chemical stockpile within a week and allow for international inspections by the middle of next year.

"If the president believes, like I do, that a credible military force helps you get a diplomatic solution, they gave that away in this deal. I'm really concerned about that," Mike Rogers, the Republican chairman of the House Intelligence Committee, told CNN.

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ABC interview. Obama will deal on budget, but not on debt limit

President Barack Obama, in an interview broadcast yesterday, blamed conservative Republicans for a stalemate on the budget and insisted that while he is willing to haggle over taxes and government spending, he will not make a deal would that would impose conditions on increasing the debt limit.

With a possible government shutdown looming in two weeks, Obama said on ABC's "This Week with George Stephanopoulos" that it is up to lawmakers to work out a budget.

REUTERS

Investigation

Man fatally shot by police may have been seeking help

An unarmed man who was shot dead after running toward police in Charlotte, N.C., may have been just trying to get help after crashing his car, police said.

A woman called 911 after Jonathan Ferrell began knocking insistently on her front door at about 2:30 a.m.

Officers arrived, finding Ferrell a short distance from the woman's house. Ferrell started running toward them.

One officer unsuccessfully fired a Taser at Ferrell, but he kept running. Randall Kerrick, another officer, then shot Ferrell several times with his service weapon, killing him, police said.

REUTERS

Another woman missing and feared dead in Colorado floods

The rain flooded out hundreds of homes in Weld County, Colo. / GETTY IMAGES

National Weather Service. Some areas have seen more than a year's worth of rain in just a few days.

Colorado officials warned yesterday the death toll from the week's severe flooding could rise as it was confirmed that a second person was missing and presumed dead, in addition to four deaths previously verified.

The 80-year-old woman had been at home with an injury when the building in which she lived was destroyed, the Larimer County sheriff's office said on its Twitter feed yesterday.

Previously, authorities had confirmed that a 60-year-old woman was missing and presumed dead after witnesses said they saw her mountain home swept away. Their names have not been released.

Those two are among hundreds who remain unaccounted for, although officials said the bulk of those missing are listed as such because they do not yet have working telephone service.

"We're still bracing. I mean, there are many, many homes that have been destroyed," Colorado Gov. John Hickenlooper said in an interview with CNN yesterday.

Officials have already confirmed four deaths since rainfall began flooding the usually semi-arid region nearly a week ago.

REUTERS

Unaccounted

500

About 500 people were still unaccounted for in two flooded counties.

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Poll: Five years after Lehman, anger at banks

Disagree. As many as 44 percent believe the government should not have bailed them out.

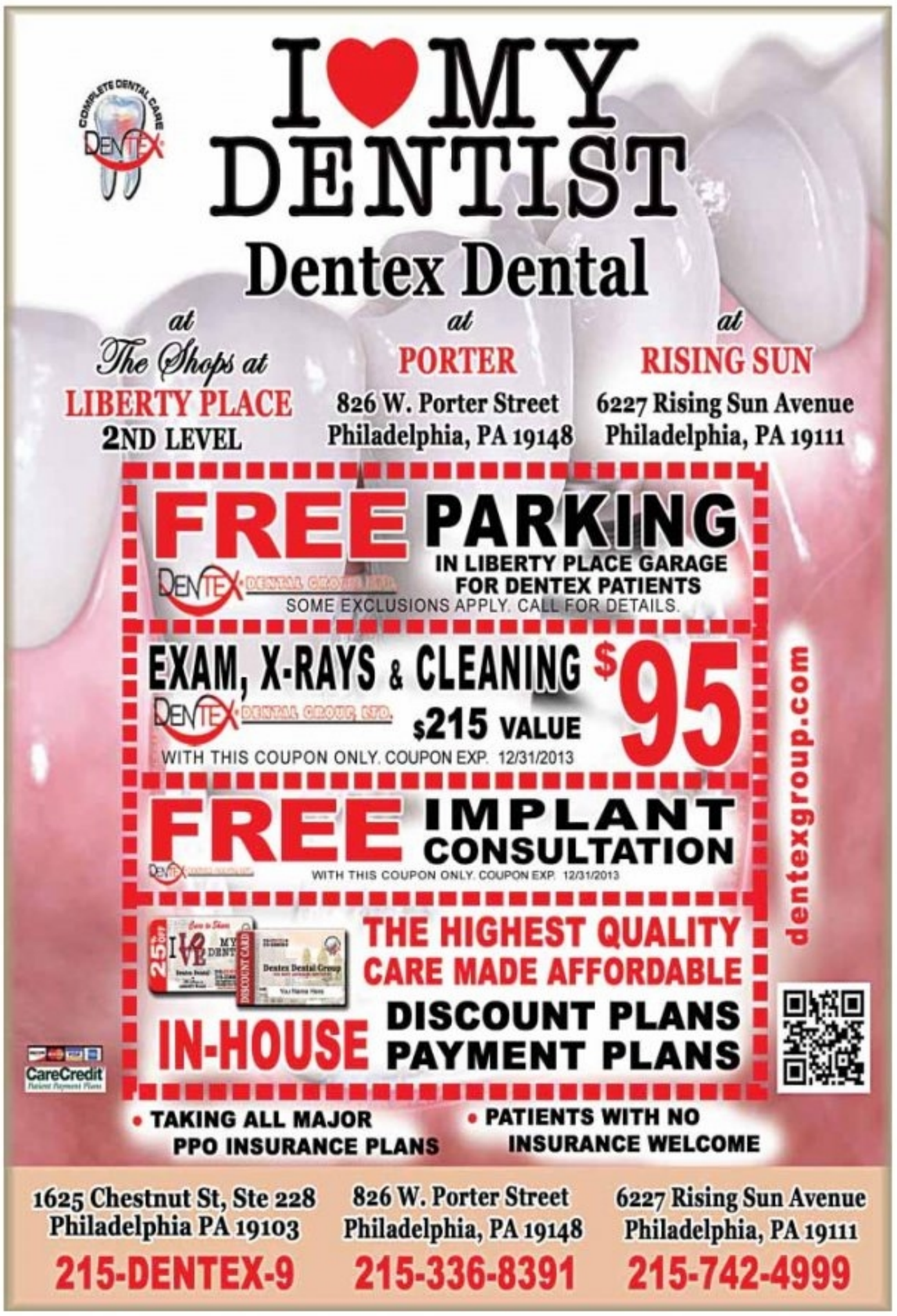
A few years ago, Larry Summers, then the director of President Barack Obama's National Economic Council, held a private meeting with some of Wall Street's top bankers and executives. Although the worst of the financial crisis was over by then, Summers — who until yesterday was a candidate to be the next chairman of the U.S. Federal Reserve — chastised bankers for being out of touch, saying they didn't understand how angry average Americans were with them, according to a participant in the meeting.

A spokeswoman for Summers said it sounded like something he might have said, though she did not provide more specific confirmation.

Five years after the collapse of Lehman Brothers and two years after the start of the Occupy Wall Street movement, Wall Street has drastically changed under an onslaught of new regulations and by some accounts become more conscious of its image on Main Street.

Still, a new Reuters/Ipsos poll shows Main Street animus against bankers and their role in the financial crisis persists. REUTERS

The anti-Wall Street sentiment bodes ill for the sector. / GETTY IMAGES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Economics

Obama accepts Summers' withdrawal from Fed chair consideration

President Barack Obama said yesterday he has accepted the decision of his former top economic aide Lawrence Summers to withdraw from consideration as chairman of the Federal Reserve.

"Larry was a critical member of my team as we faced down the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression, and it was in no small part because of his expertise, wisdom and leadership that we wrestled the economy back to growth and made the kind of progress we are seeing today," the president said in a statement.

The U.S. dollar fell across the board today following reports that Lawrence Summers had withdrawn his name from consideration to be the next Federal Reserve chairman.

The dollar fell to around 98.80 yen in early Australasian trade, after the Wall Street Journal reported that Summers, considered by many in the market to be the more hawkish of the two candidates to head the Fed, withdrew. The dollar had been trading around 99.30 yen beforehand. REUTERS

Quoted

"I will always be grateful to Larry for his tireless work and service on behalf of his country." Obama

Today's winner

To enter your submission for the Metro Photo Challenge to win a trip to Ghana, go to **www.metrophotochallenge.com.**

'Couple Central Park'

Chris Sahar, New York

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$300M. Saudi prince to hold Twitter stake, sees IPO by early 2014

Saudi billionaire Prince Alwaleed bin Talal says he will not sell any of his shares in microblogging site Twitter when it goes public and expects the firm's IPO to hit the market later this year or in early 2014.

The prince, a nephew of Saudi Arabia's King Abdullah and owner of international investment firm Kingdom Holding, invested $300 million in the social media giant in late 2011.

"Clearly the speed they're moving with shows that they would like to IPO sooner than later. I believe it will happen either this year or early next year," Alwaleed told Reuters in a telephone interview yesterday.

"Twitter is a very strategic investment for us. We believe that it is just beginning to touch the surface. We have invested $300 million in the company. We will be selling zero, nothing, at the IPO." He did not say whether he might buy new shares in the offer.

Alwaleed is a closely watched figure in international markets because of successful investments through Kingdom Holding in companies such as Citigroup and Rupert Murdoch's News Corp.

Twitter has filed for an initial public offer of shares with U.S. regulators, the company said on Thursday, taking a first step toward what would be Silicon Valley's most anticipated debut since Facebook's listing last year. REUTERS

Quoted

"With the 300 million customers they have and half a billion tweets a day, the growth potential is tremendous." Alwaleed

GETTY IMAGES

Engineers, insurers on edge as Costa Concordia salvage nears this week

When salvage teams begin hauling the wrecked Costa Concordia liner upright on the Italian island of Giglio this week, the financial stakes for insurers will be almost as enormous as the awe-inspiring feat of engineering. According to reinsurer Munich Re, the overall insurance loss from the accident could surpass $1.1 billion. As much as half of that may be swallowed up by the cost of the salvage operation. "I think now it's the most expensive wreck removal operation in history," said Rahul Khanna, a former tanker and bulk carrier captain and now a senior marine risk consultant with the shipping insurance arm of Allianz. REUTERS

Online crackdown

China airs confession by detained blogger

One of China's best-known online commentators appeared in state media yesterday to admit to spreading irresponsible Internet posts after China adopted measures to crack down on rumors.

People will be charged with defamation if posts online contain rumors are visited by 5,000 Internet users or reposted more than 500 times, according to a judicial interpretation issued this month by China's top court and prosecutor.

That rule, which could lead to three years in jail, is part of a recent government efforts to rein in social media, increasingly used by Chinese people to discuss politics, despite stringent censorship. REUTERS

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WIREIMAGE

The three very short horsemen of the very near apocalypse?

Jionni LaValle and Nicole "Snooki" Polizzi invited their close friend — the media — to help celebrate their son's first birthday. Little Lorenzo Dominic LaValle had his first birthday party on Saturday in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. This is the second first birthday party for the little boy — the couple threw a pirate-themed bash at the end of August for him.

Meghan McCain on her new show, 'Raising McCain'

Meghan McCain, 28, chatted with reporters on Thursday night at the premiere of her new docu-talk series, "Raising McCain." The cheery platinum blond says she is already bracing for the backlash. "The second episode hasn't even aired on feminism and it's already being attacked on websites, so I guess everything I do is controversial," she said about the series, which has McCain exploring various topics such as bullying and feminism through experiences in her own personal life and in conversation with other young adults. "People love me and people really love to hate me."

McCain's father, former presidential candidate Sen. John McCain, did pop up at the premiere (an hour and a half late, mind you) but didn't answer any questions. But that doesn't mean he isn't a fan. "There are things that I've said and done in the past that he doesn't love, but I think my dad would be more upset with me if I were a wallflower that didn't speak my mind," she told reporters. "I'm lucky — my parents are weirdly supportive of my career. I don't know why."

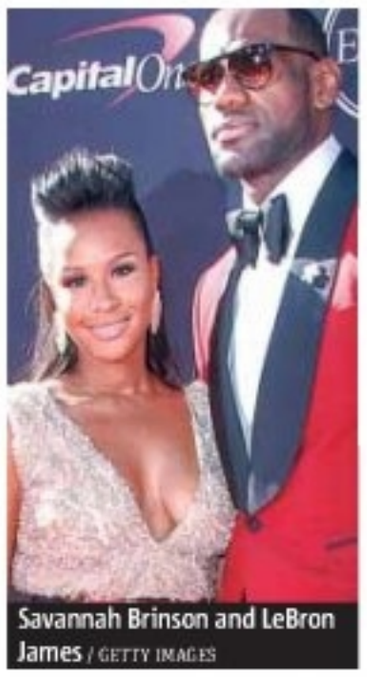
— with reporting by Anisa Arsenault

MEGHAN MCCAIN
GETTY IMAGES

LeBron James got married

LeBron James is a married man.

The basketball star married Savannah Brinson, his high school sweetheart, on Saturday in San Diego. The star-studded guest list included Beyonce and Jay Z, as well as James' teammate Dwyane Wade and his girlfriend Gabrielle Union. Chris Paul and Carmelo Anthony attended, too.



Savannah Brinson and LeBron James / GETTY IMAGES

THE WORD

Dorothy Robinson takes on the world of gossip.

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Talking point

A Twitter break-up for Hemsworth and Cyrus

This can't be a good sign. In the wake of renewed rumors about Liam Hemsworth and January Jones getting cozy, Hemsworth's fiancee, Miley Cyrus, has un-followed him on Twitter, adding to speculation that the couple of four years may be in trouble. Cyrus has been traveling around Europe promoting her latest album, while Hemsworth was most recently in Las Vegas this weekend for the Mayweather-Canelo boxing match.

2 CULTURE

Twitter feed

We check in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

Today, Don Cheadle is only one man.

@IamDonCheadle: Tweeps, if I'm out where there's 11K people and EVERYBODY wants "just one picture" and I politely decline, please don't take it personally..

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Weekend. Oh me, oh my, one of these celebs got a DWI

1 **Andy Samberg**, **Anna Faris**, **Bill Hader** and **Terry Crews** attended the "Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs 2" photo call at the Four Seasons on Sunday in Los Angeles.

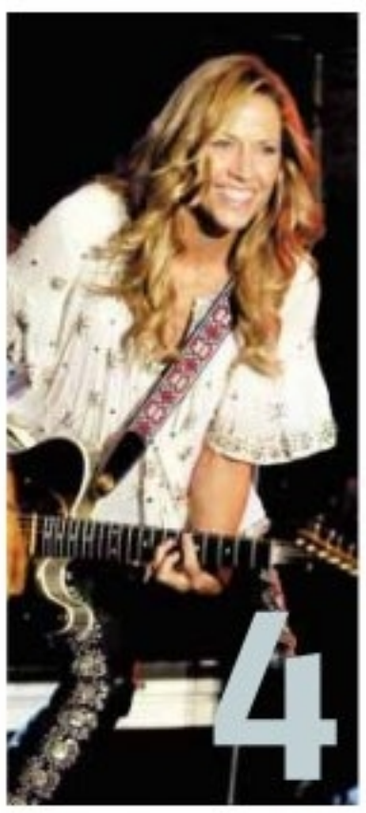
2 It was **Dina Lohan** who got the DWI, as you can tell by this lovely handout photo provided by the New York State Police. She was also busted for speeding late Thursday night in Long Island.

3 **Russell Brand** performed at the Sands Event Center Saturday night in Bethlehem, Pa.

4 **Sheryl Crow** rocked and rolled at the Greek Theatre on Saturday night in Los Angeles.

5 **Jennifer Aniston** at the "Life Of Crime" premiere at the 2013 Toronto International Film Festival on Saturday.

6 **Marc Anthony** performed — with flags! — in Las Vegas on Friday.
GETTY IMAGES



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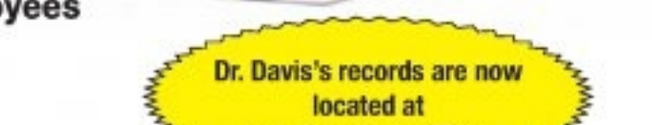
• Keystone East
• Health Partners
• All University of Penn Workers



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Hoping for a life of greener pastures

Drama.
"Terraferma" finds islanders helping on-the-lam immigrants.

Review

'Terraferma'

Director: Emanuele Crialese

Stars: Filippo Puccillo, Donatella Finocchiaro, Mimmo Cuticchio

Rating: R

An immigrant, Sara (Timnit T.), comforts her son in "Terraferma." / COHEN MEDIA GROUP

Given that "Terraferma" is set in and around the Sicilian island of Linosa, attractive sun-tanned people and sun-dappled bodies of water are to be expected. While this beautifully filmed drama has plenty of both, it takes on a far more serious topic than fun in the sun. Like director Emanuele Crialese's earlier film, "Golden Door," the subject is immigration. This time it's the illegal kind. Pitting a tradition-bound Italian family against local law, "Terraferma" depicts the moral issues that arise when local citizens aid African refugees.

Filippo (Filippo Puccillo) is the 20-year-old grandson of a fisherman family. After losing her husband, Filippo's mother Giulietta (Donatella Finocchiaro) wants to rent out their home to tourists so she can earn enough money to eventually leave the island and its dying fishing industry. After Filippo lures a tourist, Maura (Martina Codecasa), and her two friends to rent the house, all seems to be well. However, the family's situation suddenly changes. While out fishing one morning, Filippo and his grandfather Ernesto (Mimmo Cuticchio) save a handful of Libyan refugees, one of whom (Timnit T.) is pregnant. The local police seize the boat, because saving people at sea is illegal. Yet secretly, Giulietta takes in the pregnant woman, helps her deliver the baby and keeps them safe, even though she worries about being discovered.

"Terraferma" shows how the characters' attitudes toward illegal immigrants are challenged and change. Giulietta may have sympathy for her unwelcome guest, but when Filippo is out one night on a boat with Maura, he fights off dozens of refugees who attempt to climb aboard. How he responds to his guilt provides the dramatic arc of the film, but his storyline engenders only mild emotions. Likewise, when the village's fishermen stage a vivid protest against the police, the sequence is eloquently presented but it fails to create a strong impact.

More affecting is Crialese's point that the Italians want the same thing as the refugees: a better life. He underscores this with a terrific underwater tracking shot of the possessions lost by the refugees, or a quiet scene in which Giulietta and Ernesto have a pasta dinner with the hidden refugees. "Terraferma" could have used more subtle moments like these. Ultimately, the film's greatest strength is how it prompts viewers to consider their reactions in the situations Giulietta and Filippo face.

GARY M. KRAMER
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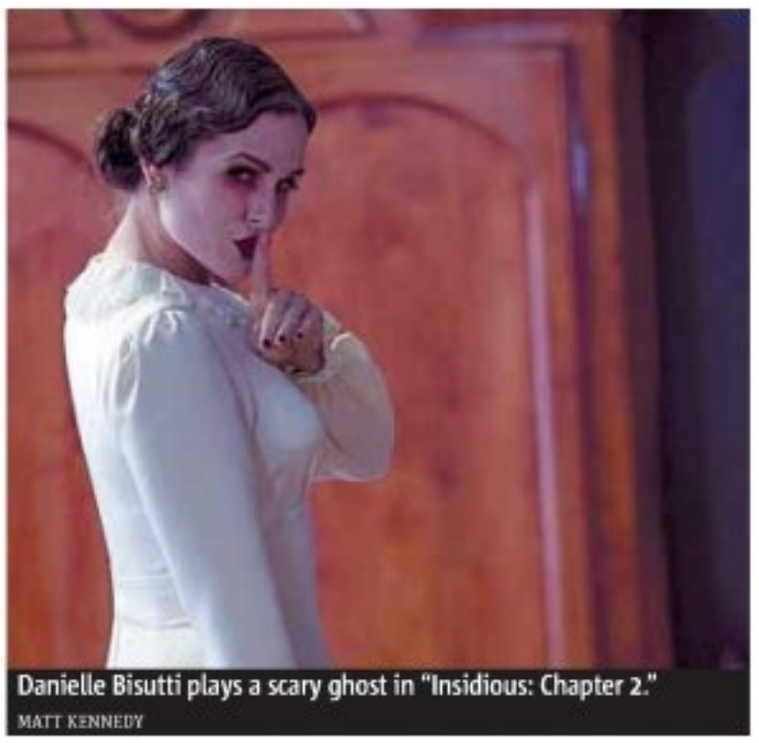
Spirits in the material world

Box office. There are no such things as ghosts, but they still make big cash money.


Danielle Bisutti plays a scary ghost in "Insidious: Chapter 2."
MATT KENNEDY

Top 5 earners

The top grossing movies at theater box offices this past weekend:

1. **'Insidous: Chapter 2,'** $41 million
2. **'The Family,'** $14.5 million
3. **'Riddick,'** $7 million
4. **'Lee Daniels' The Butler,'** $5.5 million
5. **'We're the Millers,'** $5.4 million

This weekend kicked off with Friday the 13th, which moviegoers celebrated by heaping scores of cash upon "Insidious: Chapter 2." The sequel to the low budget 2011 hit, it attracted an impressive $41 million over its first three days. By contrast, the first made $54 million in its entire run.

This marks the second ghost film directed by James Wan and starring Patrick Wilson in the last three months to score big winnings. This July, audiences made "The Conjuring" — also about a family plagued by belligerent spirits — into a box office behemoth. Perhaps spookiest of all, both films had exactly the same opening weekend haul, almost to the dollar. "The Conjuring" was so liked that it even avoided the usual massive tumble that occurs in most horror films' second weekend. Please wait with bated breath for next weekend, when the second "Insidious" goes up against the brooding Hugh Jackman mega-drama "Prisoners."

Second place went to an even gorier film: "The Family," starring Robert De Niro as an ex-mafioso whose violent family comically terrorizes the small French town in which the feds have placed them. Co-starring Michelle Pfeiffer and Tommy Lee Jones, it scared up $14.5 million, proving to be one of De Niro's better lead performances of late.

Last weekend's winner, "Riddick" — a threequel for the character Vin Diesel first played in 2000's "Pitch Black" — dropped to third place, with only $7 million in ticket sales. The sci-fi thriller cost $38 million to produce but has so far only accumulated $31 million in sales.

The top five was rounded out by the undying duo of "Lee Daniels' The Butler," which crossed the $100 million line after five weeks in release, and "We're the Millers," which crossed the $130 million line after six weeks.

The surprise hit "Instructions Not Included" continued to hold on, ranking No. 6 for the weekend with $4.2 million, bringing its total to $26.5 million. It is the second highest grossing specialty release of 2013, after "Blue Jasmine," which itself grossed $1.7 million this weekend to bring its total to $27.8 million.

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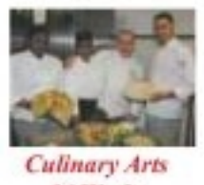
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TV watch list

DRAMA

'Sleepy Hollow'

In this latest redux of the classic Washington Irving story, Ichabod Crane and his headless nemesis are transported to the 21st century. We sort of can't imagine that this show will be anything but absurd — but since we haven't had a "Sleepy Hollow' remake since Tim Burton put fangs on Christopher Walken, we'll give it a try. **SERIES PREMIERE, 9 P.M., FOX**

Ichabod Crane tries not to lose his head in "Sleepy Hollow."
KENT SMITH, FOX

REALITY

'Dancing With the Stars'

This dance competition starring washed up C- and D-listers never fails to both amuse and sadden. This, the 17th season, features "Jersey Shore's" Snooki and "Showgirls" and "Saved By the Bell" star Elizabeth Berkley Lauren, so we're thinking it should be pretty good (pretty bad). **SEASON PREMIERE, 8 P.M., ABC**

TALK SHOW

'Chelsea Lately'

Tonight's guest is Gwyneth Paltrow. Maybe Chelsea will get Goop to spill about her weird Vanity Fair feud? **11 P.M., E!**

REALITY

'Here Comes Honey Boo Boo'

It's the white (trash) party of the year! June and Sugar Bear's wedding has finally arrived. Sugar Bear wears a camouflage tux. That's all we really have to say about that. **10 P.M., TLC**

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The family members pose with their sculptures. / COURTESY OF THE ARTISTS AND CHAMBERS FINE ART

Utensils inspire a family's art

Exhibit. "The Way of Chopsticks" takes over the Philadelphia Art Alliance.

Husband-and-wife artists Song Dong and Yin Xiuzhen were discussing ways in which they could collaborate over dinner one night in their Beijing home when they realized they were holding the answer in their hands.

"Chopsticks are very simple, just two sticks, but if they collaborate they can do many, many things," Dong explains. "I think they're a great tool for life."

They also serve as a symbol for two individual entities working in conjunction to achieve a goal. Since 2001, the couple has created several iterations of their collaborative conceptual art project, "The Way of Chopsticks," now on display at the Philadelphia Art Alliance.

For these projects, the two work separately and in secret from one another based on certain agreed-upon parameters. "One artist plus another artist working together is more powerful than two artists working separately," Dong says. "But we keep our independence."

If you go

The Way of Chopsticks

Through Dec. 29
Philadelphia Art Alliance
251 S. 18th St.
$3-$5, 215-545-4302
www.philartalliance.org

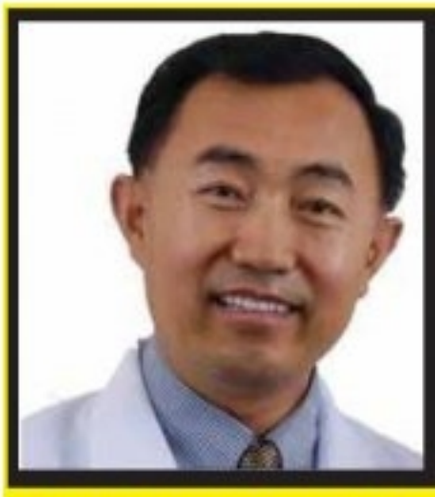
In Philadelphia, they're exploring the evolution of family dynamics from the Cultural Revolution to the present day, using three floors of the Rittenhouse Square home-turned-arts center. "I think it's really interesting to explore a family working together in the context of a domestic space that's now a public space," says Art Alliance senior curator Sarah Archer. "They're looking at how we live and how they live and the contrast."

Dong and Xiuzhen arrived in Philly with their 10-year-old daughter, Song ErRui (who has christened herself the "Third Chopstick"), making the experience a family affair. "I think it's very interesting for one family to give the gift of art," Dong says. "We brought Chinese life and Western life to play together in the space."

The installation begins on the first floor of the Art Alliance, where discarded, repurposed furniture comments on the shifting lifestyles of Chinese families over the last four decades. The second floor features several of the couple's iconic chopstick sculptures as well as Duchamp-inspired reframings of older works. And the third floor showcases a split-screen film starring Song ErRui, each half directed separately by one of her parents.

Family has long been a key concept for the pair. Dong is perhaps most famous for his 2009 MoMA exhibition "Waste Not," which collected a lifetime's worth of his mother's possessions from toothbrushes to flip-flops. Xiuzhen's work has largely used textiles to recognize the role of women's labor; she represented China in the 2007 Venice Biennale. As Dong says, "Art is the center of our family."

SHAUN BRADY
letters@metro.us



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Riding an 'Awesome Wave'

Stateside success. British band Alt-J are enjoying their popularity, but they want you to stop being so "coupley" at their gigs.

Alt-J's Unger-Hamilton, second from right, says they're "too awkward" to be truly crazy showmen.
NOAH KALINA

When Alt-J's Gus Unger-Hamilton looks out into the crowd at an American gig, it's not the scores of glowing iPhones that he finds himself distracted by. It's how "coupley it is."

That, says the eccentric British band's keyboardist, is the biggest difference between their fan base here in America and back home. More specifically, it's all of the couples making out. "Oh God, it happens the whole time, and it always happens during the same songs," he laughs. "It happens in 'Matilda' and it happens in 'Taro.'"

"It's also hilarious watching guys dancing with their girlfriends but making it super obvious that, you know, this is their girlfriend," he continues. "They always stand behind them and don't let anybody, especially the band, probably, think for one moment that this girl is single. The guys are always looking so awkward, trying to come up with dance moves to encircle their girlfriends."

If it sounds like he's being a jerk, he's not. Soft-spoken and slightly meditative, Unger-Hamilton's not a rock star out to poach anyone's girlfriend, and it seems like he's merely bemused by it all — not the least their sudden success.

Alt-J have gone from playing shows in their off-campus house at Leeds to headlining 5,000-person-capacity arenas, in rapid succession, thanks to the popularity of their debut, "An Awesome Wave."

But, if they should be worried about following up such an impressive debut, they're not. "We know we're not going to put out a substandard second album," he says.

On their next album

"It's only going to be when we've made a record we're happy with, so in that sense, I'm not worried."
Unger-Hamilton

If you go

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‘Dancing’ pro Karina Smirnoff on her sizzling new workout

Fitness. Before tuning in to tonight’s premiere of “Dancing with the Stars,” learn how the pro stays svelte.

Karina Smirnoff does the samba in her new video. / LIONSGATE ENTERTAINMENT

“Dancing with the Stars” pro Karina Smirnoff is running from a wardrobe fitting to show rehearsals when we catch up with her. It’s only a few days before tonight’s new season premieres and the professional ballroom dancer breathlessly declares her excitement: “It’s a crazy week. The new show has lots of new elements that we are all learning. It’s very exciting; it’s going to be so much fun.”

Anyone who has watched the show and seen Smirnoff in action knows that dancing can be a super-effective way to work out. Smirnoff and fellow pro Kym Johnson are behind the best-selling fitness DVD “Dancing with the Stars: Latin Cardio Dance,” and are now back with its follow-up, “Dancing with the Stars: Sizzle & Groove Latin Dance,” which was released earlier this month.

The DVD features Smirnoff and Johnson teaching exercise routines adapted from the show for a full-body, high-cardio workout that anyone — even those with two left feet — can do at home and get results.

“Latin dancing is the most incredible workout and you don’t feel like you are exercising — it’s more fun than going to the gym,” says Smirnoff. “You’re burning more calories too. The testament is that every celebrity who comes on the show either loses weight or tones up and they always say that’s the best part of doing it.”

Unlike what you might be doing at the gym, Smirnoff says that dancing works multiple muscle groups simultaneously.

“When you go to the gym you really concentrate on single muscle groups. When you do yoga, it is repetitive poses. Dancing works every muscle, and also, you’re not exercising at the same rate continually, so your heart rate is going up and down. It’s great cardio. And you’re having fun and looking sexy. It’s the only workout where you look sexy,” Smirnoff says with a giggle.

LINDA CLARKE
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PLUS

Her diet

‘Making good choices’

The Ukrainian native’s workout routine includes yoga, which she calls “an hour and a half of pure torture!” Smirnoff sticks to a mostly non-meat diet, but otherwise isn’t too rigid in what she eats. “I think that a healthy diet means making good choices. Having a piece of cake and then running it off is OK, but having a piece of cake before going to bed means it goes straight to your butt.”

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A YOGA SEQUENCE TO FORGET ABOUT WORK

Nine hours at the office equates to a tense back, tight hips and a screwed-up neck. Deepak Chopra's yoga teacher, Tara Stiles, shows us how to loosen up and unwind at home. Do this four-step sequence to slowly start to open up your hips, shoulders and spine. **ROMINA McGUINNESS**

1 Standing Forward Bend Shoulder Opener

Great for: Opening up the hamstrings and shoulders. It will help you recover from "desk slump" and calm your mind.

Get into it: Stand with your feet hip-width apart. Soften your knees. Interlace your hands behind your back. Inhale and lift your chest up. Exhale and fold over your legs. Relax your arms over your head. Hang here for five long, deep breaths. Gently roll up to stand.

2 Lizard

Great for: Hips get crazy tight from sitting. This move releases tension in both the hips and the spine.

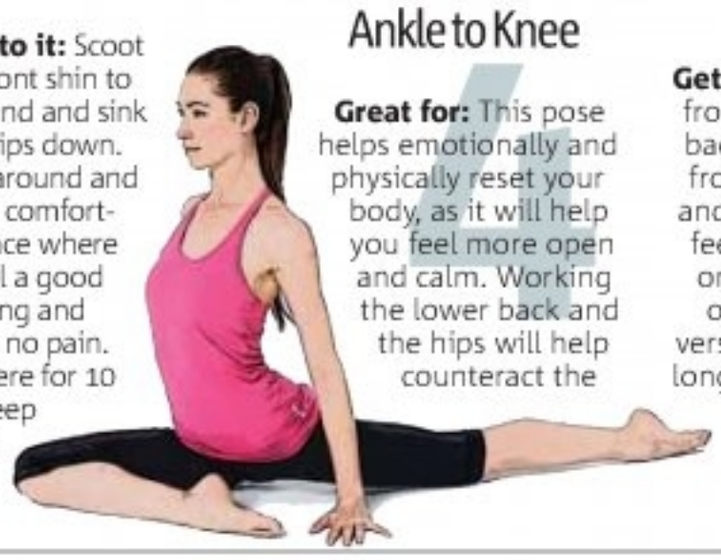
Get into it: Come into a low lunge. Scoot your front foot a few steps away from your midline. Relax your back knee to the ground and soften your forearms to the ground. Hang here for 10 long, deep breaths.

3 Pigeon

Great for: The pose is most relaxing and awesome as a follow up to Lizard. It releases tension in the hips, back and mind.

Get into it: Scoot your front shin to the ground and sink your hips down. Move around and find a comfortable place where you feel a good opening and there is no pain. Hang here for 10 long, deep breaths.

4 Ankle to Knee



Great for: This pose helps emotionally and physically reset your body, as it will help you feel more open and calm. Working the lower back and the hips will help counteract the negative effects of sitting at a desk all day.

Get into it: Sink into your front hip and bring your back leg around to your front. Stack your ankles and knees. If this doesn't feel great for you, slide one leg in front of the other leg for a softer version. Hang here for 10 long breaths. Then switch sides.

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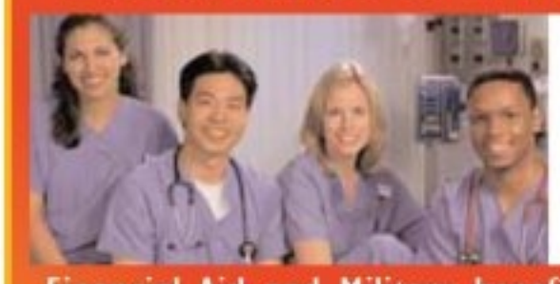

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Series aims to keep dropouts in school

Television. A six-part show brings celebrities in as professors for at-risk students.

Swizz Beatz works with at-risk students. / SUNDANCE CHANNEL, JC DHEIN

Students are starting a new school year, and one of educators' biggest challenges is keeping them there — and hopefully funneling them toward college. One new documentary, the Sundance Channel's "Dream School," highlights what they call a dropout crisis. The six-part series follows students as they learn from an array of celebrities, from musician and producer Swizz Beatz to financial guru Suze Orman and director Oliver Stone. The 15 Los Angeles students, all ages 17 to 18 — a pivotal age where students traditionally decide to drop out or stay in school — were either expelled or had dropped out, and each professor tries to spark their interest. We spoke with Dr. Steven Keller, a California superintendent involved with the series, about how the students reacted to their unusual education atmosphere.

What are some of the challenges of keeping kids in school?
First of all, family engagement. Moms, dads, uncles, aunts, grandmothers, grandfathers, need to hunker down with their family members and engage their family members. As a family and as a country, we need to take ownership of each and every kid to really push them and motivate them to get to school each day and check in on them when they get home from school, make sure they have some accountability when the kids get home, whether a potential dropout or not. The second piece, of course, is funding. There needs to be more funding specifically for kids that are earmarked as potential dropouts. We as educators need to look at restructuring and reforming how we serve this population. and make changes and reflect on our practice.

Did anything surprise you in making this documentary?
I think the celebrity teachers genuinely wanted to connect with the kids. All of them really do. They were nervous, even scared. They would constantly ask for feedback. I'm not saying they all performed brilliantly, I'm just saying they all took their craft seriously. … No one showed up thinking they were going to wing it.

What do you think could most help students who can't participate in something like "Dream School"?
I think the most powerful message is, find that person in your life... Seek out an adult, it doesn't mean it has to be a millionaire... but somebody you admire, somebody you respect, somebody who wants to better him or herself, somebody who is basically hungry, who wants to move ahead and not just to have a new car or a new house but who really wants to change the world and make it a better place. Everybody knows somebody.

ALISON BOWEN
letters@metro.us

Risk factors

What are some of the symptoms of someone who might be at risk of dropping out?

A lot of people look at traditional data. On the other hand, we look at other factors. We look into attendance. We actually look at social emotional assessment with kids, to find out how engaged they are at school. Do the students feel a sense of purpose at school? [Does each student] feel he or she can express his or her opinion in class and to a school educator? Those indicators tell you a lot.

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Long-distance learning

Video chat. Skype is the newest platform for foreign language education.

Skype has already revolutionized the way more than 50 million registered users communicate with faraway friends and family. Now, the web-based video-calling platform may just be poised to overhaul foreign language education as well. If used correctly, Skype-based language lessons can help students hurdle barriers like location, money and time to meet their personal language goals.

Ray Blakney started Live Lingua, one of the world's top Skype-based foreign language immersion schools, in 2008. While learning Spanish through the immersion method in the Peace Corps in Mexico, Blakney came to understand the importance of communication practice with native speakers. Skype helps learners connect with them.

"It's amazingly similar to a one-on-one class," Blakney says. "It really feels like you're sitting there talking to these people. You don't have to sacrifice that much." Live Lingua offers several languages and dialects, and most students are taught spoken communication. Instructors can diagnose their needs as they go. Most students start with at least some spoken proficiency — including Blakney himself, who is brushing up his rusty Turkish with Live Lingua.

For students whose focus is more on grammar, reading or writing, Skype coursework does have its limitations. Joseph Miranda, founder of NoteFull, started his company to prepare students for the TOEFL exam. TOEFL is an advanced English proficiency test required for non-native speakers to study or practice in the U.S. NoteFull uses Skype for tutoring sessions, but relies primarily on other web teaching materials.

"Skype doesn't lend itself to presenting information," Miranda says. "Coupled with a website, then it becomes effective. For writing, you'd be texting back and forth." Still, it offers major scheduling advantages for busy adults: "Skype is on 24 hours a day, seven days a week. So it lends itself to flexibility."

Liliana Novikova, a multilingual foreign language teacher based in Ukraine, agrees that Skype lessons are best for non-beginners. For them, teachers prefer a textbook they can point to, or to draw pictures and examples. And at any level, lessons can be sabotaged by spotty Internet connections. "It's rarely infallible," Novikova says. "Most classes are interrupted at least once."

Despite Skype's shortcomings, Novikova is still pleased to connect with students she otherwise couldn't. "It offers complete geographical freedom. But students and teachers still feel connected to each other, and they can achieve almost the same progress as they would face-to-face."

The benefits

"It offers complete geographical freedom. But students and teachers still feel connected to each other, and they can achieve almost the same progress as they would face-to-face."

Liliana Novikova, multilingual foreign language teacher

NATALIE SHURE
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Laura Ramirez, one of Live Lingua's instructors, works in her "classroom." / RAY BLAKNEY

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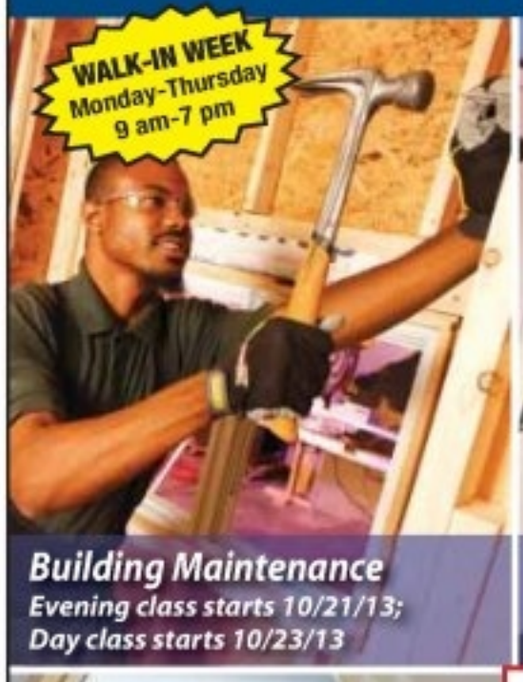

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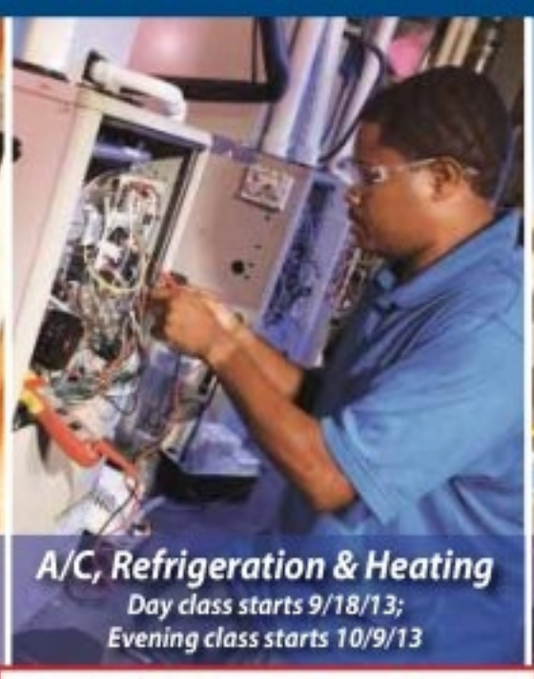

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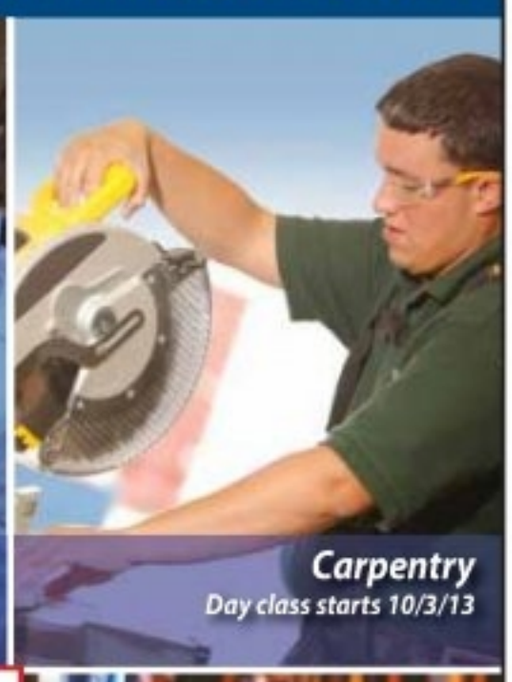

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Focusing on ADHD

Health. College students with ADHD can find specific resources to help them.

When people think of students with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, they might think of a boy bouncing off a wall, unable to focus on his homework. But ADHD is much more complicated, say the people behind ADHD Awareness Month, coming in October with free webinars and info sessions. For students, ADHD can bring particular challenges, whether sitting through a lecture or juggling homework. We spoke with Michele Novotni, chair of the ADHD Awareness Month Coalition, to find out some of the misconceptions about ADHD.

What are some of the myths about ADHD?
We still have issues with people not thinking it's a legitimate disorder. We have a fairly large group of people who think it's not real. I think one of the problems is that most people can have ADHD-like symptoms some of the time. Somebody might forget their lunch, or somebody might be late for a meeting. Those things in the general world happen occasionally. For people with ADHD, making it through a lecture and really hearing what the person's saying on a regular basis is nearly impossible. ... Most of us, we do that automatically. For the clients we work with, they're exhausted by the time they do that part. Nothing is really automatic for them.

How do people try to convice you that ADHD is just a myth?
"It's normal behavior." "Everybody does it." "ADHD's just an excuse." Those are the common things that we hear. ... There's two forms of [ADHD]. One would be the hyperactive, impulsive kind, and most people can recognize that — the kids that are jumping around, the adults that are moving around constantly. They're just a whirlwind of action. The ones that get missed a lot would be the inattentive. This is particularly true of women and girls. Most of them may have the inattentive kind of ADHD. [Skeptics] think if you're not hyperactive, you can't have ADHD. A typical boy jumping around is everybody's image, but adults can have ADHD, and most of the adults haven't been diagnosed yet.

What can colleges and universities do to help?
They could [make] getting the accommodations easier. Some of the schools require an expensive battery of tests. Overall, a number of the colleges do a pretty good job of letting the students sign up early for preferential classes, special tutoring and help with organization. It's important for the kids to pick a good college match for them. If they look at disability services, some have two or three people and all kinds of services, and some have one part-time person a few hours a few days a week. ... If they're struggling with assignments, they could look into getting a coach. ADHD coaching is very helpful for a number of the students, because [before college] many of them have their parents helping to provide that structure for them. An ADHD coach can work with them. When I coached, I would get copies of their syllabus, we'd be talking about breaking things down. It's just somebody else to help keep you on track.

It can be hard to diagnose some teens with ADHD. / GETTY

Recognizing signs

What should students look out for?

The best thing they could do would to take the adult screener on our website (www.adhdawarenessmonth.org). The World Health Organization has a screener for ADHD. They can take the screener as a starting point. It doesn't take the place of a proper diagnosis, but it's a starting point. In the colleges, they could talk to a counselor or talk to the doctor.

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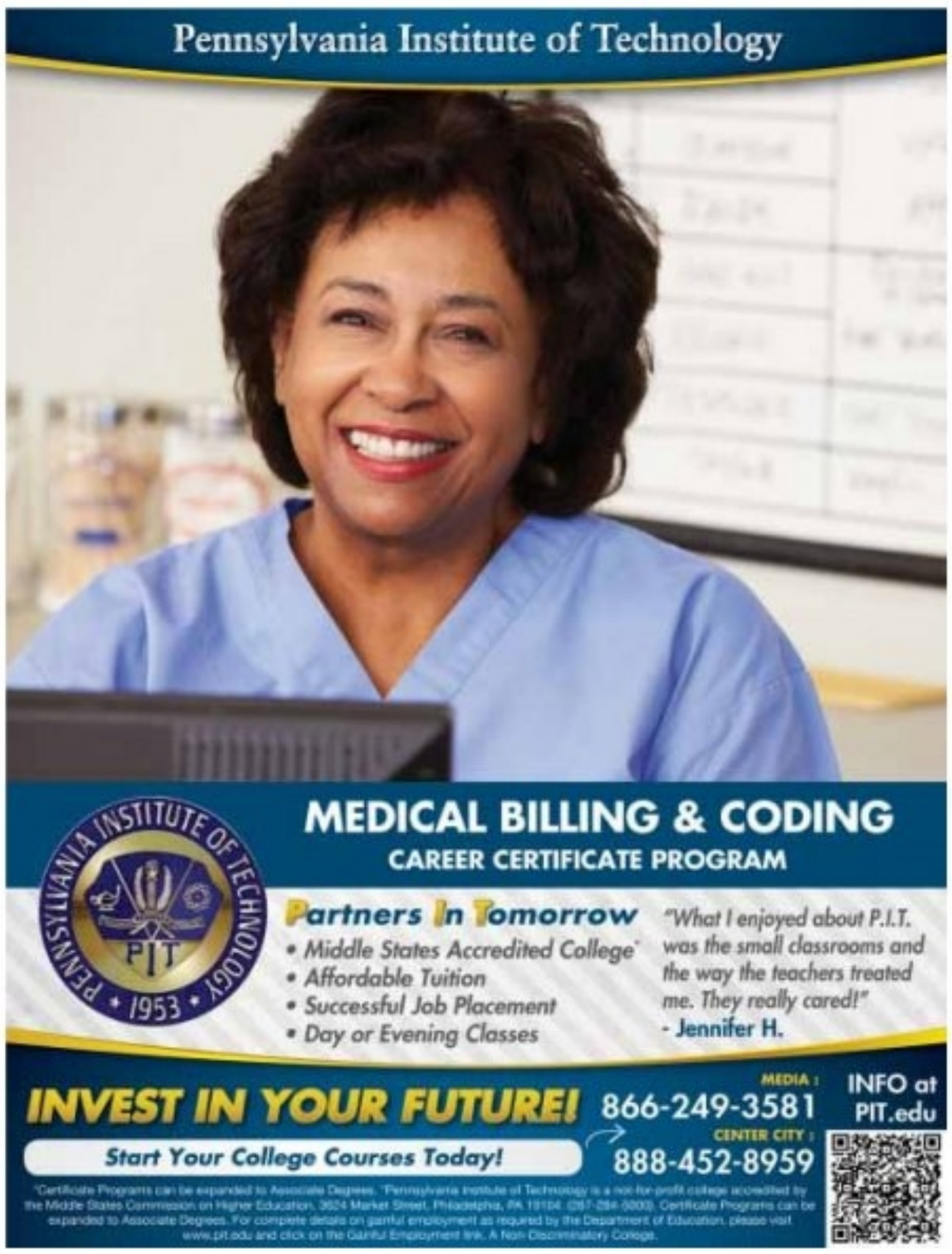
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Losing ground

Statistics. A growing number of researchers point to an overlooked decline in Latino male participation in higher education.

Latino students are falling through the cracks. / DIGITAL VISION

The data on Latino males in higher education can be somewhat deceiving. According to the National Center For Education Statistics, Latino male enrolment has been going up since 1976.

But dig a little deeper, and a severely different picture emerges: When you consider the total number of college-aged Latino males, they lag behind nearly every other ethnicity in college enrollment.

And it's a tragedy that has gone largely unnoticed in the national conversation on higher education.

"If Latino males are not participating in higher education, we are not tapping a rich talent pool and our economy and country suffers," says researcher Luis Ponjuan. The Texas A&M professor recently co-edited, "Ensuring the Success of Latino Males in Higher Education: A National Imperative" — due for release this year.

Ponjuan's book is part of a growing movement to put this issue on the front burner. "These numbers definitely tend to get lost in the shuffle. And it's a problem for the entire country, because in several states [Latinos] are the plurality of participants [in education]. As they go, so will overall U.S. figures," says Michael A. Olivas, author of one of the first books on this subject: "Latino College Students."

Researchers familiar with this dilemma are not surprised that Latinas have fared much better. (In fact, female Hispanics are amongst the strongest minority groups in higher ed.) Over the last decade, male attendance and completion has dropped for every racial category — across the board. But Latinos have been disproportionately affected.

"What we're finding is that many of these men are checking out way before high school," says Ponjuan. "So that's the next task as I see it: We have to take a hard look at the messages we're sending these young boys. We need to change the narrative of what's possible for them."

Quoted

"This is not simply an issue of poverty or inability to fit in with the dominant culture. ... There are other factors, including peer pressure, family support structures and career options for men."

Luis Pedraja, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs, Antioch University

BRUCE WALSH
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For women, juggling careers, children and relationships is a full-time job. / MOODBOARD

Well-rounded. We turned to the pros for insight into this hot-button issue.

It's a debate that continues to wage war in our society, one that was brought to the forefront again with the release of Sheryl Sandberg's "Lean In": Can women really have it all? The perfect home, the darling children and the bustling career — can they be successfully juggled? And why is "having it all" a problem only women seem to have?

At a New York Women in Communications panel discussion on female leadership last week, women at the top of their game offered their opinions on the matter and advice for women trying to balance it all.

"You can't expect perfection," said Cathie Black, the former chairman and president of Hearst Magazines (who, by the way, abhors the phrase "having it all"). She referenced Oprah Winfrey's popular "Live your best life" quote, noting the importance of the word "your" in there.

"Life is about imbalance," she added. "There are choices you make."

One of those choices might be accepting that you can't do it all. Jeannine Shao Collins, the EVP and chief innovation officer of Meredith 360, recommended future leaders "be willing to delegate, and be OK with it." And Black added that hiring a nanny to watch the kids isn't going to make them forget who their parents are.

Dustee Tucker Jenkins, the VP of public relations for Target, spoke on the importance of saying no and being in a career you truly love to help ease the daily burdens. She recalled quitting her reporter job on the spot after she was sent to cover a murder case and realized journalism wasn't for her. She also emphasized the role that others play in helping you achieve your personal and professional goals. In her opinion, she said "Lean In" means, "lean in and grab the hands of the women next to me. For me it means trying, failing, getting better, growing."

Debra Shriver, SVP/chief communications officer at Hearst, echoed the "Lean In" sentiments, encouraging attendees to "be engaged, be direct, be in the office when you're in the office, but have a 360 life." She recalled attending a meeting she wasn't invited to — and then running it — and joked that "on some days I lean in so much [that] I need to lie down."

MEREDITH ENGEL
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Quoted

"On some days I lean in so much [that] I need to lie down."
Debra Shriver
SVP/chief communications officer at Hearst

Cathie Black weighs in

Cathie Black / GETTY IMAGES

Career tips

Black's one of the most respected bosses in the biz. Take her advice and watch your career soar.

How to ask for a raise: "You have to have a reasoned approach," she says. "'I need more money' — that is not my problem. Look at the results: Have you done the job really well? Then you can ask for something."

How to stand out in meetings: Black calls the corner seat "the dead zone of the table." Speak up! "If you are going to show up, you are not a visitor — you are a participant in that meeting."

How to get ahead: "We're so polite, wanting to be liked," she says of women. "Let's push that paradigm upside-down. I don't think it's about being liked. You're really not in the job to find your new best friends."

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Bilingual in Spanish Translators – A South Jersey organization is seeking Bilingual in Spanish Translators. As the Bilingual in Spanish Translator you will translate for customers when they call in regarding their benefits during the company's open enrollment. You will be translating from Spanish to English. Ideal Bilingual in Spanish Translators must have at least one or more years of experience in customer service and translating experience. Candidate must be fluent in Spanish (Reading, Writing and Conversational). The shifts are Monday - Thursday 10:00 AM-2:00 PM and Friday 10:00 AM - 7:00 PM or 11:00 AM - 8:00 PM. Contact OfficeTeam today!

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Horoscope

♍ Virgo | Aug. 23-Sept. 22. Work with what you have to offer, while also keeping an eye on expansion. Your skills, if presented properly, will bring top dollar. Put time aside for romance.

♎ Libra | Sept. 23-Oct. 22. If you want to avoid a potentially harmful misunderstanding, communicate your thoughts and plans honestly and in full detail.

♏ Scorpio | Oct. 23-Nov. 21. You may need to make a compromise in order to keep the peace. Good fortune is within reach if you are willing to share.

♐ Sagittarius | Nov. 22-Dec. 21. You can offer your services, but don't let anyone take advantage of you. Focus on the positive changes you can make at home.

♑ Capricorn | Dec. 22-Jan 20. Letting emotional issues interfere with getting things done will cause delays. Concentrate on what you can accomplish.

♒ Aquarius | Jan. 21-Feb 18. Education will be key today. Try to use your skills in diverse ways. Changing the way you approach your work will increase your earning potential.

♓ Pisces | Feb. 19-March 20. Take an innovative approach to investments. Spend more money on your image, developing your skills or marketing.

♈ Aries | March 21-April 20. Give everything you've got. Use your intelligence efficiently and you'll command newfound respect.

♉ Taurus | April 21-May 21. Refuse to let a minor problem turn into a major conflict. Go about your business and do whatever it takes to reach your goals. In the end, you will get your way.

♊ Gemini | May 22-June 20. You will have to jump through hoops to get help. Try to wrap up what you can on your own if you want to avoid wasted time.

♋ Cancer | June 21-July 22. An unusual subject will capture your attention. Prepare to debate as well as begin friendships. Love will enhance your day.

♌ Leo | July 23-Aug. 22. Make needed alterations that will relieve you from unwanted responsibilities. You know what to do to improve your life — do it.

BERNICE BEDE OSOL

Sudoku: Easy and hard

	9	3	4				7	5
	1	8				6		
				6			3	4
					8	7	2	
			6	9	1			
	8	1	5					
5	3			7				
		7				5	4	
8	6				3	9	1	

			4				1	6
8			6			9	5	
		9	1			4		
	1		7	4				
	5		8		1		2	
				3	5		6	
		3			4	6		
	6	8			2			7
4	9				6			

How to play
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Letters

Take a kinder look at good ol' GMOs

Humans have been genetically modifying crops and livestock for thousands of years through selective breeding and the hybridization of plants. Genetic engineering is simply a much faster and more precise way of giving our food organisms the characteristics that we want them to have. Crops have been genetically modified to resist insect attacks, thereby reducing the need to use pesticides that harm the environment. Golden rice is genetically modified to contain provitamin A and is intended for distribution in poor, rural areas where nutrient deficiency is a huge problem. Sadly, some golden rice crops in the Philippines were recently destroyed by ignorant mobs who believed that GMOs were dangerous.

KELTON BARNSLEY, VIA EMAIL

In a nation where biotech and pharmaceuticals are leading the world industry, it's appalling that there are such academic inaccuracies. Does anyone understand that scientists aren't actually piecing together slices of DNA to create frankenfoods?

Have you ever heard of corn? That is a naturally occurring genetically-modified organism (as in, it didn't exist 500 years ago until a random cross-pollination mutation of maize and wheat occurred, and we simply kept growing it.) When it comes to apples, genetic engineering simply means cross-pollination, and selecting favorable phenotypes (aka physical descriptors). They are specifically selecting the larger to simply feed more people per apple. Genetic engineering in general isn't what its namesake and stigma lead most laymen to believe.

MATT BROSNAN, VIA EMAIL

letters@metro.us

Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words. Metro reserves the right to edit all letters. Please include your name and contact info.

Crossword

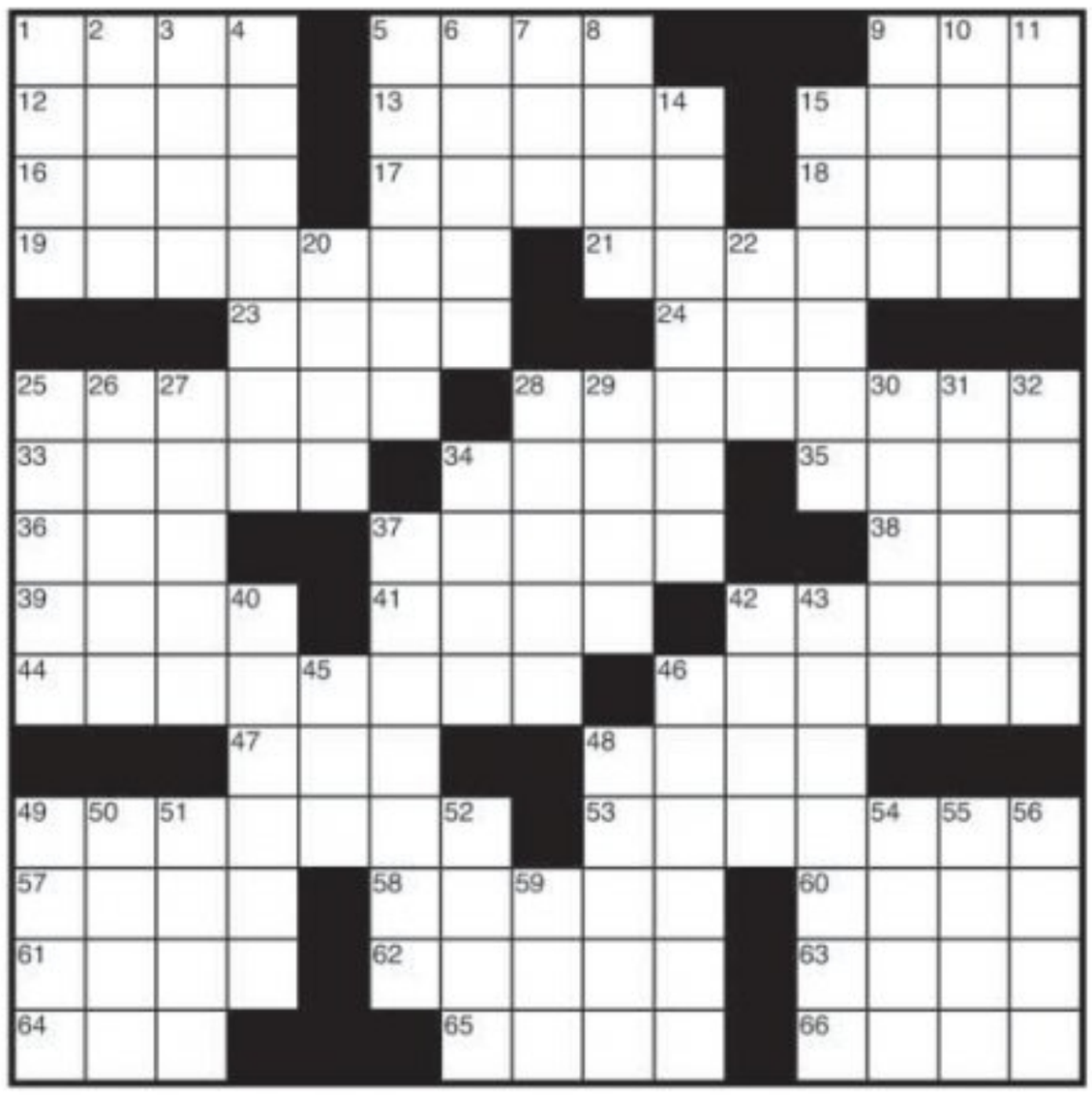
Across

1 Kid
5 Superboy's friend
9 Jump on one foot
12 Asian princess
13 Out on — —
15 Plains state
16 McClurg or Brickell
17 Exxon buyout
18 Boris' refusal
19 Food source
21 Whatchamacallits
23 Byway
24 Microscopic
25 Fracture remedy
28 Hard candy
33 Hoof-on-pavement sounds
34 Tizzy
35 Bangkok native
36 Same old grind
37 Complaints
38 Publishing execs
39 Comics' Miss Kett
41 Pub pints
42 Cut too short
44 Paper base
46 Battery posts
47 Make a knight
48 — parmigiana
49 Authorize
53 Thin crisp fabric
57 Diving bird
58 Noted soap vixen
60 Student quarters
61 Big-city problem
62 Mubarak predecessor
63 With, to Maurice
64 Sushi-bar selection
65 Only
66 Lengthy story

Down

1 Safari
2 Dry watercourse
3 Monogram pt.
4 Gift for Dad (2 wds.)
5 Dirge
6 Solitary
7 Robin's beak
8 In the course of
9 Georgetown athlete
10 Felt grateful
11 Reassures Rover
14 Photo enlargements (hyph.)
15 Seeing red, in a way (2 wds.)
20 Inventor — Geiger
22 Poet's contraction
25 Bookcase-kit item
26 Demoted planet
27 Gambling game
28 Lie dormant
29 Louts
30 Out in front
31 Punch server
32 Says "yeth"
34 Collapsed
37 Trinkets
40 Summing up
42 Hitch in plans
43 Pina — (rum drinks)
45 Wall Street option
46 Tend the aquarium
48 Out loud
49 Threat ender
50 Iditarod terminus
51 Implement
52 Paleozoic and Mesozoic
54 Exploding star
55 Remnant
56 Gym org.
59 Bachelor's last words (2 wds.)

Weekend's answer



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Cary Williams absorbs a stiff arm from Chargers tight end Antonio Gates yesterday. / GETTY IMAGES

Bolts give Birds a reality check

NFL. Birds fall to Chargers, 33-30, in Chip Kelly's home debut after a dismal showing by the defense.

The Eagles were outsmarted by a savvy, veteran yesterday at the Linc. Philip Rivers showed he can still be an elite quarterback in handing the Birds a 33-30 loss in Chip Kelky's home debut.

The defense, which looked energized a week ago, was lifeless. Rivers attacked the secondary at will. The Eagles' defense literally couldn't get off the field.

"We have to get ourselves off the field," defensive coordinator Billy Davis said. "That is the thing about defensive football, you get yourself off the field and then you get rest. We were not making the plays in the second half on third down."

Several players were left scratching their heads after the game. Cornerback Cary Williams stared at the ground as he attempted to find a reason why. It was like the Chargers had stolen the defensive playbook prior to kickoff.

DeSean Jackson hauled in a 61-yard touchdown catch yesterday. / GETTY IMAGES

Get ready for Big Red

"This doesn't feel good, does it? We better make sure we can correct it. We have a game in four days. We're going to come out against a team that likes to throw the football and we have to be ready to play."

Chip Kelly, Eagles coach,
On yesterday's loss and Thursday's game against Kansas City

"It looked like they knew exactly what DeMeco [Ryans} was calling," Williams said. "It seemed like they were on to every play and every check that we made. Sometimes when you play a great quarterback, that happens."

Rivers was a maestro on the field as he threw for 419 yards and three scores. When the Chargers got the ball back with less than two minutes in the fourth quarter, there was no doubt they were going to score again. It was just a matter of whether it would be a game-winning touchdown or field goal. Rivers got the latter in a nine-play drive to spoil Kelly's first home game.

"Hats off to them for a good game — it came down to the wire, but now we just have to move in to the next game," said safety Patrick Chung. "We played hard, I really feel like we played our hearts out."

The Eagles have little time to pout, with Andy Reid and the Kansas City Chiefs coming to the Linc Thursday night.

"It's our third game in 11 days, but were conditioned for it," said quarterback Mike Vick.

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What we saw

Defense lets Birds down in loss to Bolts

The Eagles were clicking on offense, but the defense couldn't stop Philip Rivers and the Chargers.

We take a look at three things that went wrong for the Eagles:

1 Get off the field. The Eagles' defense simply couldn't get off the field. Philip Rivers was playing catch with Antonio Gates all day, especially on third down where the Chargers converted a whopping 10-of-15 (67 percent). The defense has allowed 53 points in the last six quarters of football.

2 Don't make mistakes. The Eagles shot themselves in the foot early and often. DeSean Jackson dropped a would-be touchdown on a deep go-route. James Casey let another TD slip through his fingers at the goal line. Lane Johnson's holding penalty negated another touchdown — and Jackson's late-hit penalty cost the team 15 yards and valuable field position late in the fourth quarter. Alex Henery also missed a 46-yard field goal to end the half.

3 Safety concerns. The depth chart wasn't lying with this batch of safeties. Patrick Chung and the combo of Earl Wolff and Nate Allen isn't working. They looked confused on several plays, especialy Allen who was literally run over. Wolff was bailed out on a blown coverage when Antonio Gates dropped an easy TD in front of him. But, as Chip Kelky pointed out, there aren't any NFL safeties standing around on the street looking for jobs. The unit is what it is and the Eagles are going to have to hope this group improves as the season rolls along.

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Vick puts up big numbers
Despite suffering a heartbreaking loss, Eagles quarterback Mike Vick enjoyed a career day. Vick threw for a career-best 428 yards and added three touchdowns (two passing, one rushing) with a 122.4 passer rating. It marked his 10th 300-yard passing performance as an Eagle, tying Sonny Jurgensen for fourth in franchise history.
"We are still on the right track, but we still have a lot of work to do in all cylinders of the game," Vick said.
Watch online
Find video and recap of last night's Phillies-Nationals game at:
Metro.us/sports.

Flyers will have a healthy competition between pipes

NHL. Steve Mason and Ray Emery are competing to be the Flyers' starting goaltender in training camp.

In Bryz they never could quite trust.

Which is why Ilya Brzgalov, whose inconsistency stopping the puck wasn't so much the problem as the soap opera around him, has been exiled to the NHL's equivalent of Siberia.

His place has been taken by Steve Mason and Ray Emery, two guys that have flashed brilliance elsewhere. Now they're relocated here hoping to recapture the glory.

And while there is some healthy competition, there won't be any backstabbing.

"Our goal is to provide the Flyers with solid goaltending," said the 25-year-old Mason, who posted a dazzling 1.90 goals-against in his seven-game stint after coming over at the trade deadline from Columbus. "It's going to be a great competition whether it plays out through camp or the start of the regular season. I talked to guys Ray played with in Chicago and even guys he played with here. He's a team-first guy with a great personality. He brings experience to this locker room."

Not exactly the way the enigmatic Bryzgalov talked about his competition in goal, Sergei Bobrovsky in 2012, then little-used Michael Leighton and Brian Boucher last season.

"It's a healthy competition, I guess you could say," said Emery, starting his second tour of duty here after a hip injury short-circuited his 2010 season. "Both guys want to play, obviously, as much as they can. I want to have the best camp I can to be ready. I'm sure Steve does as well."

The battle for No. 1 figures to last well into the start of the regular season, with the 30-year-old Emery expected to face the Caps in a preseason game here tonight. He split time with Crawford last season and went 17-1 with a 1.94 goals-against in the regular season for Chicago.

JON MARKS
sports@metro.us

Steve Mason credited Flyers goalie coach Jeff Reese for calming him down. / GETTY IMAGES

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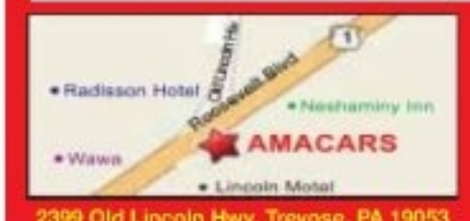

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Darin Ruf has 13 home runs in 61 games this season for the Phils. / GETTY IMAGES

Future bright for 'Babe Ruf' in Phillies red

MLB. Darin Ruf is putting up impressive numbers and making the case for a starting spot in 2014.

Any beat writer covering Charlie Manuel's Phillies remembers folksy stories and his love of the three-run homer. The old skipper always said that power is the last thing to come to a hitter.

Darin Ruf's power stroke may lead to a starting job in the Phillies' outfield next season. Ruf has hit 13 homers since being called up in early July, the second most from any NL player since July 4.

The Creighton University alum raised eyebrows last season when he hit 20 home runs for Double-A Reading in August. While at Creighton, Ruf hit for average, not distance.

"He reminds me of Bob Horner," Manuel said, while analyzing Ruf's short swing and ability to react quickly to most pitches.

Ruf's stroke does share similarities with Horner's swing. Horner, who challenged Mike Schmidt for the home run crown in the late 1970s, was a productive power hitter for the Braves.

If Ruf could approximate what Horner did back in the day, he may live up to last season's nickname, Babe Ruf.

"I'm just going to try to play as well as I can," Ruf said. "I have no control over what the Phillies decide, but they're giving me an opportunity this season and I'm trying to do the best I can with it."

Ruf has impressed with his power and his ability to get on base. His .342 on-base percentage is about 100 points higher than his average.

"The object is to get on base," Ruf said. "That's what I try to do. That helps the team."

ED CONDRAN
sports@metro.us

Phillies crushed

The Phils fell to the Nationals, 11-2, yesterday in Washington.

- Tyler Cloyd (2-5) gave up five runs on 10 hits in four-plus innings.
- Dom Brown hit a double and scored the first Phillies run on a sac fly from Kevin Frandsen.
- Chase Utley drove in Roger Bernadina with an RBI groundout.

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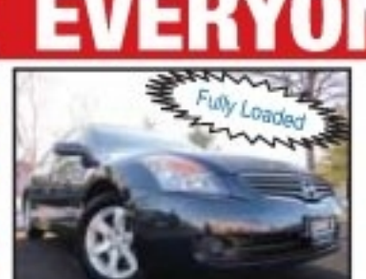

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Tough loss for the Union to Dynamo in weekend match

MLS. Club falls to Houston at PPL Park, now reside in sixth place in East.

The Union fell to the Dynamo, 1-0, this past weekend at PPL Park. Midfielder Ricardo Clark scored in the 53rd minute to give Houston the victory.

The game's pivotal moment came in the 30th minute on a disallowed goal.

Keon Daniel lined up to hit a free kick from about 40 yards out. It sailed through the hands of Houston keeper Tally Hall for what looked to be the game's first goal. Instead, it was disallowed.

"When the ball was played, the Union player [defender Amobi Okugo] was judged to be offsides, so therefore he was penalized for being offsides on that play," said referee Mark Kadlecik said. "The offsides player [Okugo] interfered with the keeper. It didn't matter if it was physical or not. If they're offsides, they are interfering with play."

Instead of Daniel's blast becoming fuel for the Union, it was Houston picking up the points. The Union (10-10-9) sit in sixth place in the Eastern Conference with 39 points.

"This is a cruel game sometimes," said team manager John Hackworth. "It just feels like in a lot of ways, we can't catch a break. That's not the reason that we are sitting here where we are [in the standings], but sometimes you need the ball to bounce your way a little and certainly not have outside factors take goals away and affect your game."

CHRIS GLIDDEN
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Amobi Okugo had a goal disallowed for interference. / GETTY IMAGES

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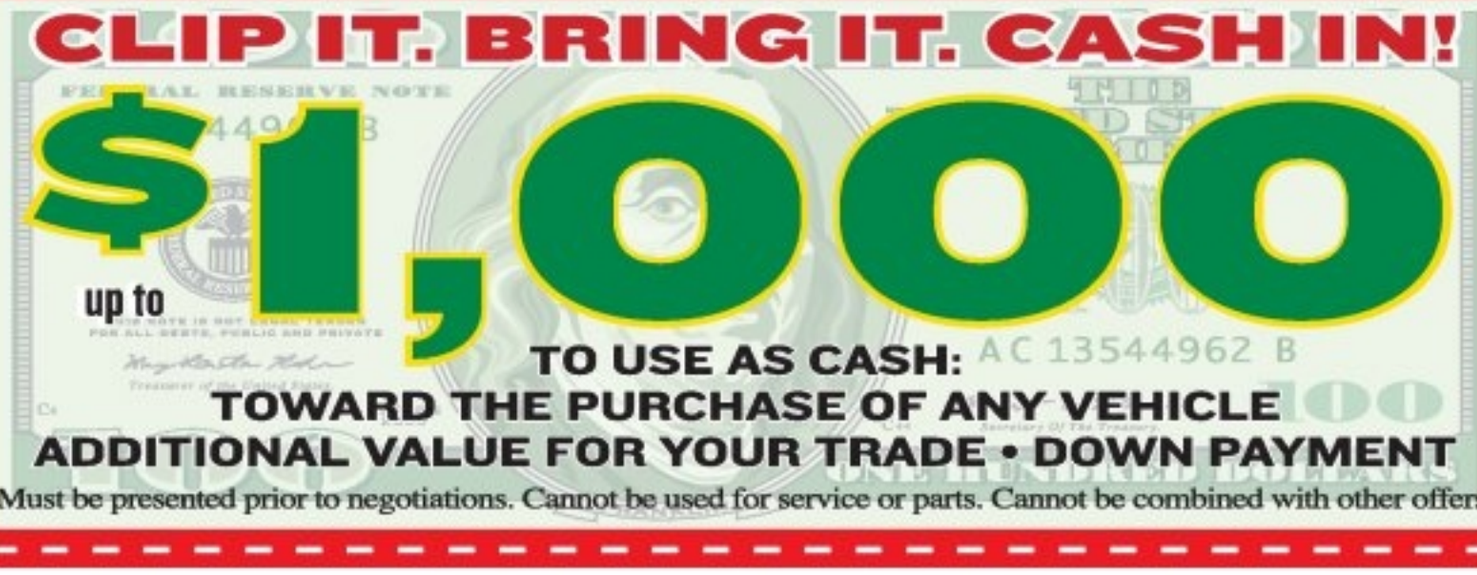

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Alabama No. 1 — Temple, Penn State both lose

NCAA. Crimson Tide is still the country's top team after beating Texas A&M this weekend.

Alabama remained No. 1 in The Associated Press college football poll.

The Crimson Tide (2-0) survived its first big test of the young season this past weekend by beating Texas A&M, 49-42. The game had the highest TV ratings for a college football game since 2006. Nebraska, previously ranked No. 23, dropped out of the poll after falling to UCLA, 41-21. Texas A&M fell from No. 6 to No. 10. Oregon, Clemson, Ohio State and Stanford rounded out the Top 5 behind Alabama.

Reilly came on in relief.
GETTY IMAGES

Temple is now 0-3 on the year after losing to Fordham, 30-29. The Owls are 0-3 for the first time since 2007. Injured quarterback Connor Reilly nearly led a second-half comeback. He finished 7-of-8 for 69 passing yards in relief of starter Clinton Granger and freshman backup P.J. Walker.

Meanwhile, Penn State (2-1) lost to Central Florida, 34-31. Freshman quarterback Christian Hackenberg completed 21-of-28 passes for 262 yards. The Nittany Lions put up 455 yards of total offense in defeat.

MICHAEL GREGER
michael.greger@metro.us

Peyton gets best of Eli

Peyton Manning led the Broncos to a 41-23 rout yesterday over little brother Eli and the Giants. Peyton threw for 307 yards and two TDs, while Eli went for 362 yards and four interceptions. / GETTY IMAGES

NFC East

Packers routs Redskins

The Redskins lost to the Packers, 38-20, in Green Bay.

Aaron Rodgers threw for 480 yards and four TDs as Washington dropped to 0-2. Alfred Morris rushed for 107 yards and Robert Griffin 111 threw for 320. METRO

NFC East

Chiefs top Cowboys

Andy Reid still has the Cowboys' number as he led the Chiefs to a 17-16 victory over Dallas.

Tony Romo was playing with bruised ribs and threw for 298 yards and a score. Dez Bryant had 141 receiving yards in the loss.

Dwayne Bowe (56 yards) caught the go-ahead touchdown for Kansas City. METRO

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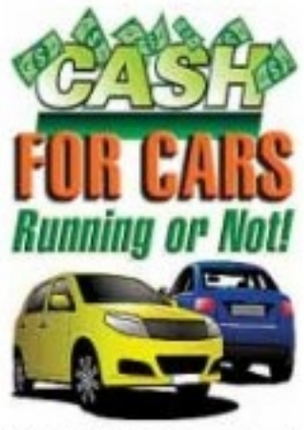

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